2 19. (Amended) An oligonucleotide probe selected from the group consisting of:

OP(=O)(O-)O-(5')(B)sRRRR(B)wBt*

[HO-(3')(B)sRRRR(B)wBt*]

and

OP(=O)(O-)O-(5')(B)sRRRR(B)w(3')OP(=O)(O-)O

wherein:

B is a deoxyribonucleotide or an analog thereof;

R is a ribonucleotide;

s is in the range of from 1 to 8;

w is in the range of from 0 to 8, such that the sum of $\underline{s}$ [j] and $\underline{w}$ [k] is less than or equal to 8; and

Bt* is a labeled, non-extendable chain-terminating moiety.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks. Claims 18 and 19 are pending.

I. Amendments

The specification has been amended to correct various typographical errors, and to include SEQ ID identifiers. Claim 19 has been amended to delete the second member of the Markush group, to replace parameters j and k with s and w, and to add --and-- before the last clause of the claim. Claims 18 and 19 have been amended to change "labeled chain terminating moiety" to --labeled, non-extendable chain terminating moiety--, to further define the claimed invention. No new matter is added by any of the amendments.

II. Abstract

The application was objected to for lack of an abstract. Accordingly, a new abstract is attached hereto for the Examiner's consideration.

3